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Japanese Beetle Zone only

FRANKLINIA

(*Franklinia alatamaha*, *Gordonia alatamaha*)

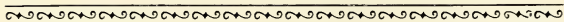
THE EXQUISITE
FALL-FLOWERING TREE

AN exquisite tree indeed! It is most beautiful in its general landscape effect, with the first flowers opening in mid-August. The trees, even when very small, are abundantly starred with them until Jack Frost nips hard.

Every detail is of wondrous charm. Smooth, dark gray bark, with broken, wavering, light gray, longitudinal markings, covers a slender trunk and graceful branches so muscular and sinewy in appearance that one almost expects motion, as under a greyhound's satin skin.

The young leaves unfold a charming, delicate, bronzy red. At maturity they are 5 to 6 inches long by 1½ to 2 inches wide, a rich dark green with red veining. In autumn the whole tree blazes with rich, warm color.

The flower buds are balls covered with whitish



green satin. When as large as marbles they unfold. The guard petal retains its firm, spherical form, and from its shelter four other petals emerge. They are satiny snowy white, elaborately frilled and pleated. The snowy, frilly chalice, 3 inches in diameter and of piquant irregularity, holds a sumptuous mass of the richest orange-gold stamens and breathes forth a delicate, balmy fragrance.

This lovely tree was found in Georgia in the latter part of the eighteenth century, but in spite of diligent search has not been found growing wild since 1790. Bailey's *Cyclopedia of Horticulture* says of it: "Shrub or tree to 30 feet. It does well in Massachusetts in sheltered position or with slight protection and blooms freely every year. A large tree in the Bartram Garden, near Philadelphia, was long supposed to be the only living specimen. All other specimens in cultivation are believed to have been propagated from the Bartram tree which has lately died."

So desirable a tree, known for more than a century and a quarter, would have been more widely distributed except for difficulties of propagation. Some years ago, Dr. Frederick V. Coville, of the United States Department of Agriculture, successfully propagated it from cuttings in the same soil he was using for blueberries. From him the original plants of the Whitesbog stock were obtained.

The *Franklinia*, like blueberries, appreciates peaty material in its soil and good drainage with assurance against drought, but it is much more tolerant of ordinary garden conditions than are the blueberries. It is a good associate for rhododendrons and azaleas.

The plants we offer are very strong and vigorous, and the larger ones bloomed in the nursery last fall.

Plants from 10 to 15 inches high, \$3 each, \$25 for 10 plants
Plants from 18 to 24 inches high, \$5 each, \$45 for 10 plants

A few stocky plants, 27 to 33 inches high, with
extra-heavy roots, \$7.50 each

The smallest size plants will be shipped postpaid.

Prices of the two larger sizes include packing and crating for shipment by Express or Freight, transportation charges collect.

JOSEPH J. WHITE, Inc.
WHITESBOG, NEW JERSEY

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